



**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

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August 15, 2016

To: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning, Director
Department of Children and Family Services

**RESPONSE TO THE JULY 19, 2016 ADMINISTRATIVE MEMO REGARDING THE PUBLIC
COMMENT TESTIMONY OF DR. DIANA BEARD-WILLIAMS**

Executive Summary

At the Board of Supervisors' meeting held on July 19, 2016, Dr. Diana Beard-Williams testified during the Public Comment portion of Agenda Item No. R-3 (which was related to the implementation of AB 109) and made reference to sexual abuse allegations pertaining to a former resident in her home. Her public testimony comments can be found on page 188 starting on line 6 of the attached transcripts; she specifically stated the following:

DR. DIANA BEARD-WILLIAMS: "BUT I ALSO WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW THAT THERE ARE HOLES IN IT. I HAVE GONE TO THE PROBATION DEPARTMENT IN THE PAST REGARDING INDIVIDUALS WHO SHOULD NOT BE LIVING IN MY HOME, AND THEY DID ABSOLUTELY NOTHING. THEY DID ABSOLUTELY NOTHING IN TERMS OF THEIR BAD BEHAVIOR, AND IT WASN'T UNTIL THEY FOUND OUT AND I COULD PROVE THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WAS ACTUALLY HAVING SEX WITH HIS 10-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER AND I INVOLVED D.C.F.S. THAT THEY GOT INVOLVED. HE WAS USING DIFFERENT ADDRESSES IN TERMS OF WHERE HE WAS LIVING, AND IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO KNOW WHERE THESE INDIVIDUALS LIVE AND THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO RESIDE WHERE THEY SAY THEY RESIDE."

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Supervisor Antonovich instructed the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to look into the issue raised by Dr. Diana Beard-Williams during her testimony and provide a report on the review.

On Tuesday, July 26, 2016 DCFS staff contacted Dr. Beard-Williams to obtain details of the allegation that an "individual was actually having sex with his 10 year-old daughter." Dr. Beard-Williams was not able to corroborate her statement of child sexual abuse, nor was she able to provide the alleged victim's identifying information, or a timeline as to when this allegedly occurred. However, she provided the name of the individual she made reference to during her testimony as well as the name of his wife.

Based on the information obtained, DCFS researched the matter, and found no evidence to support her statement regarding sexual child abuse, nor was there any evidence to indicate that there is a child at risk of child abuse.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you may call me or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Liaison, at (213) 351-5530.

PLB: BN:ER

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors